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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/660,560	09/12/2003	Takanori Masui	117046	6405
25944	7590	07/24/2007		
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			EXAMINER PAN, JOSEPH T	
			ART UNIT 2135	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 07/24/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/660,560

Applicant(s)

MASUI ET AL.

Examiner

Joseph Pan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 May 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/5/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's response filed on April 27, 2007 has been carefully considered. New claim 11 has been added. Claims 1-10 are amended. Claims 1-11 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Foster et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0184518 A1), hereinafter "Foster", in view of Sutton et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,237,243 B2), hereinafter "Sutton".

Referring to claim 1:

i. Foster teaches:

An information processor which implements a service by cooperatively operating a plurality of job processors each executing its processing in accordance with a process description defined in instruction data, the information processor comprising:

an encryption processor which encrypts each process *description* defined in the instruction data using information of each one of job processor which

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executes the process, so that the process description is decryptable for the job processor (see figure 15, element 610 'encrypt job ticket'; and page 12, paragraph [0125] "The information in the job ticket 61 (excluding the public key signature field 67) is then, for example, optionally hashed using, for example, MD5 protocol, and encrypted with a public key encryption system, block 610, generating a hash number, block 615. Other hashing or encryption techniques may also be used." of Foster, emphasis added), and

a transmitter which sends the instruction data, in which the process description is encrypted by the encryption processor, to the job processor which executes the process described in the encrypted process description (see page 5, paragraph [0056], lines 5-7 of Foster).

Foster discloses encrypting the process description (see e.g. figure 15, element 610 'encrypt job ticket', of Foster). However, Foster does not specifically mention encrypting each process description using the information of each one of job processor which executes the process.

ii. Sutton teaches a multiple device management method wherein Sutton discloses encrypting each process description using the information of each one of job processor which executes the process (see column 12, lines 19-23, 'Since rogue computers can also sniff the network, sensitive information is not passed over the network unencrypted, and the encryption is such that only the target nodes of a secured message can decrypt it.', of Sutton, emphasis added).

iii. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Sutton into the method of Foster to encrypt each process description using the information of each one of job processor which executes the process.

iv. The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to have applied the teaching of Sutton into the system of Foster to encrypt each process description using the information of each one of job processor which executes the process, because "Since rogue computers can also sniff the network" (see column 12, lines 19-23 of Sutton), the data security will be enhanced by encrypting each process

description using the information of each one of job processor which executes the process.

Referring to claim 2:

Foster and Sutton teach the claimed subject matter: an information processor which implements a service by cooperatively operating a plurality of job processors each executing its processing in accordance with a process description defined in instruction data (see claim 1 above). Foster further discloses the downstream process (see page 4, paragraph [0053], lines 1-3 of Foster).

Referring to claim 3:

Foster and Sutton teach the claimed subject matter: an information processor which implements a service by cooperatively operating a plurality of job processors each executing its processing in accordance with a process description defined in instruction data (see claim 1 above). Foster further discloses the public key (see page 6, paragraph [0064], lines 1-4 of Foster).

Referring to claims 4-5:

Foster and Sutton teach the claimed subject matter: an information processor which implements a service by cooperatively operating a plurality of job processors each executing its processing in accordance with a process description defined in instruction data (see claim 1 above). Foster further discloses the encryption (see page 6, paragraph [0064], lines 1-4 of Foster).

Referring to claims 6, 8:

i. Foster teaches:

An information processor contained in a system which implements a service through cooperative operation of a plurality of job processors, the information processor comprising:

a receiver which receives instruction data in which each encrypted process description using information of each of job processor which executes the process is contained (see page 6, paragraph [0064] of Foster);

a decryption processor which decrypts a part of the process description, which is received by the receiver, for the job processor itself (see page 6, paragraph [0064] of Foster);

a transmitter which sends the instruction data to the other job processors *which* subsequently execute their processing (see page 6, paragraph [0064] of Foster).

Foster discloses encrypting the process description (see e.g. figure 15, element 610 'encrypt job ticket', of Foster). However, Foster does not specifically mention encrypting each process description using the information of each one of job processor which executes the process. Neither does Foster specifically mention deleting the part of the process description from the instruction data.

ii. Sutton teaches a multiple device management method wherein Sutton discloses encrypting each process description using the information of each one of job processor which executes the process (see column 12, lines 19-23, 'Since rogue computers can also sniff the network, sensitive information is not passed over the network unencrypted, and the encryption is such that only the target nodes of a secured message can decrypt it.', of Sutton, emphasis added).

Sutton further discloses deleting the part of the process description from the instruction data (see column 8, lines 52-58 'The administration program 210 or the like enables the creation or editing of a script on the file-system, creation of a script entry in the script database, editing of a script entry, deletion of a script entry, creation of a job (described below) that may use a script, deletion of a job, editing of a job, execution of a job, a retrieval of the status and results of a job.', of Sutton, emphasis added).

iii. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Sutton into the method of Foster to encrypt each process description using the information of each one of job processor which executes the process.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Sutton into the method of

Foster to be able to edit or delete the part of the process description from the instruction data.

iv. The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to have applied the teaching of Sutton into the system of Foster to encrypt each process description using the information of each one of job processor which executes the process, because "Since rogue computers can also sniff the network" (see column 12, lines 19-23 of Sutton), the data security will be enhanced by encrypting each process description using the information of each one of job processor which executes the process.

The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to have applied the teaching of Sutton into the system of Foster to be able to edit or delete the part of the process description from the instruction data, because "This feature may eliminate stale data, and free up resources for another job requests" (see page 8, paragraph [0085] of Foster).

Referring to claims 7, 9-10:

i. Foster teaches:

An information processing method carried out by a computer which implements a service by cooperatively operating a plurality of job processors each executing a process according to each one of a plurality of process descriptions defined in instruction data, the information processing method comprising the steps of:

encrypting each process description defined in the instruction data using information of each one of job processor which executes the process, to that the process description is decryptable for the job processor (see page 6, paragraph [0064] of Foster), and

sending the encrypted instruction data to one of the job processors which executes the process described in the process description (see page 6, paragraph [0064] of Foster).

Foster discloses encrypting the process description (see e.g. figure 15, element 610 'encrypt job ticket', of Foster). However, Foster does not specifically

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mention encrypting each process description using the information of each one of job processor which executes the process.

ii. Sutton teaches a multiple device management method wherein Sutton discloses encrypting each process description using the information of each one of job processor which executes the process (see column 12, lines 19-23, 'Since rogue computers can also sniff the network, sensitive information is not passed over the network unencrypted, and the encryption is such that only the target nodes of a secured message can decrypt it.', of Sutton, emphasis added).

iii. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Sutton into the method of Foster to encrypt each process description using the information of each one of job processor which executes the process.

iv. The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to have applied the teaching of Sutton into the system of Foster to encrypt each process description using the information of each one of job processor which executes the process, because "Since rogue computers can also sniff the network" (see column 12, lines 19-23 of Sutton), the data security will be enhanced by encrypting each process description using the information of each one of job processor which executes the process.

Referring to claim 11:

Foster and Sutton teach the claimed subject matter: an information processor which implements a service by cooperatively operating a plurality of job processors each executing its processing in accordance with a process description defined in instruction data (see claim 1 above). Foster further discloses the instruction data defines each process (see page 4, paragraph [0046], lines 3-6 'branch', of Foster).

Response to Arguments

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4. Applicant's arguments, filed on May 4, 2007, have been fully considered. The amended independent claims now include the claim limitation of "using information of each one of job processor which executes the process". Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office Action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph Pan whose telephone number is 571-272-5987.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached at 571-272-3859. The fax and phone

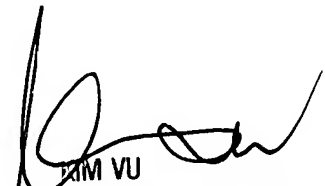
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numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.

Joseph Pan

July 10, 2007



TIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100